
DIGEST

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Thierry

HB No. 990

Abstract: Establishes the "Reentry Advisory Council and Offender Rehabilitation and Workforce Development Act".

Present law provides for the "Inmate Rehabilitation and Workforce Development Act".

Present law further provides for the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program to be administered by DPS&C.

Proposed law changes the name of the act to the "Reentry Advisory Council and Offender Rehabilitation Workforce Development Act".

Present law provides that the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development advisory council shall function as an advisory body for DPS&C in administering the program.

Proposed law changes the name of the council to the Reentry Advisory Council and provides the following additional duties:

- (1) Identify methods to improve collaboration and coordination of offender transition services, including cross-agency training and information sharing that will help to improve outcomes for offenders.
- (2) Establish a means to share data, research, and measurement resources in relation to reentry initiatives with relevant agencies.
- (3) Identify funding areas that should be coordinated across agencies to maximize the delivery of state and community-based services as they relate to reentry.
- (4) Identify areas in which improved collaboration and coordination of programs and activities will result in increased effectiveness or efficiency of service delivery.
- (5) Promote areas of research and program evaluation that can be coordinated across agencies with an emphasis on applying evidence-based practices to support treatment and intervention programs for offenders.
- (6) Conduct a review of existing policies and practices and make specific recommendations to the legislature for systemic improvement.

- (7) Create and support local reentry councils in collaboration with community stakeholders throughout the state.
- (8) Commence offender reentry public education campaigns.
- (9) Enhance the role of faith and community-based services for formerly incarcerated persons.
- (10) Provide coordination of reentry initiatives across the state and ensure eligibility for Second Chance Act grant opportunities and other reentry grant opportunities.

Proposed law provides that an inmate may be eligible for participation in the program if not otherwise ineligible as provided in present law and meets the eligibility requirements of work release programs contained in present law.

(Amends R.S. 15:1199.1, 1199.2(A)(intro. para.), 1199.3(2), 1199.4(A) and (M), 1199.7(A), 1199.9, 1199.10(B)(1), 1199.11, 1199.12, and 1199.14(B); Adds R.S. 15:1199.2(A)(5), (6), (7), (8), and (9), (G), (H), (I), (J), (K), and (L), 1199.3(9), and 1199.4(N); Repeals R.S. 15:1199.2(F))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill.

1. Restored present law amount of deductions for room, board, and other administrative costs from inmate wages.

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Provided technical changes.
2. Added eligibility requirements consistent with present law work release programs unless prohibited by present law workforce development provisions.
3. Changed amount of deductions for room, board, and other costs from 75% to 70% of gross inmate wages.